

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A damper-mounting structure, wherein an upper portion of a damper, which is connected at its lower end to a suspension, is accommodated within a vehicle body frame having a closed section, and a mounting portion for the damper is fixed to a lower surface of the vehicle body frame.

2. A damper-mounting structure, wherein an upper portion of a damper, which is connected at its lower end to a suspension, is fixed to a vehicle body, wherein a temporary fixing means is provided at the upper portion of the damper, and wherein, after the damper has been temporarily fixed to the vehicle body with the temporarily fixing means, , the damper is fixed to the vehicle body from below.

3. The damper-mounting structure according to claim 2, wherein the temporary fixing means is a hook-shaped locking projection, and the damper is temporarily fixed to the vehicle body by inserting the locking projection into a locking bore formed in the vehicle body and rotating the damper to bring the locking projection into engagement with the locking bore.

4. A method for temporarily securing a damper to a vehicle, said damper comprising a mounting portion comprising at least one locking projection, said vehicle comprising a vehicle body frame having a lower member, said lower member having an upper surface, a lower surface, and defining an opening through which said damper extends, said lower member further defining at least one locking bore, said method comprising the steps of:

inserting said damper into said opening from below;

aligning said locking projection with said locking bore;
inserting said locking projection through said locking bore; and,
rotating said damper such that said locking projection moves relative to said locking bore and is disposed adjacent said lower member upper surface and out of alignment with said locking bore.

5. A method for mounting a damper to a vehicle, said damper comprising a mounting portion having a locking projection and a bolt bore, said vehicle comprising a vehicle body frame comprising a plurality of members cooperating to provide a closed section, said plurality of members including a lower member, said lower member having an upper surface, a lower surface, and defining an opening through which said damper extends, said lower member further defining a locking bore and a bolt bore, said method comprising the steps of:

inserting said damper into said opening from below;
aligning said locking projection with said locking bore;
inserting said locking projection through said locking bore; and,
rotating said damper such that said locking projection moves relative to said locking bore and is disposed adjacent said lower member upper surface and out of alignment with said locking bore while simultaneously moving said mounting portion bolt bore into alignment with said lower member bolt bore; and,
inserting a bolt through said aligned bolt bores to secure the damper to the vehicle body frame.

6. A damper in combination with a vehicle body frame, said combination comprising:

said damper having a lower portion and an upper portion, said lower portion

being adapted to be secured to a suspension, said upper portion including a mounting portion;

said vehicle body frame comprising a plurality of members that are secured to one another so as to define a substantially closed section, said plurality of members including a lower member;

wherein said damper upper portion being received within said closed section of said vehicle body frame and said mounting portion is fixed to said lower member.

7. The combination according to claim 6, wherein said lower member defines an opening and a locking bore, said damper extending through said opening and said locking bore cooperating with said damper mounting portion to permit temporary attachment of said damper to said vehicle body frame from below.

8. The combination according to claim 7, wherein said damper mounting portion includes a locking projection, said locking projection being adapted to extend through said lower member locking bore.

9. The combination according to claim 8, wherein said locking projection includes a base portion secured to and extending away from an upper surface of said damper mounting portion, and a body portion spaced a distance from the upper surface of said mounting portion so as to permit said lower member to be received beneath said body portion:

10. The combination according to claim 7, wherein said lower member further defines a bolt bore, and wherein said damper mounting portion defines a bolt bore and includes a locking projection, said locking projection being adapted to

extend through said lower member locking bore, and said mounting portion bolt bore cooperating with said lower member bolt bore to receive a bolt to secure said damper to said vehicle frame.

11. The combination according to claim 10, wherein said locking projection includes a base portion secured to and extending away from an upper surface of said damper mounting portion, and a body portion spaced a distance from the upper surface of said mounting portion so as to permit said lower member to be received beneath said body portion.

12. The combination according to claim 6, wherein the mounting portion is an upper spring seat of the damper.